

House Engrossed

**FILED**

**JANICE K. BREWER  
SECRETARY OF STATE**

State of Arizona  
House of Representatives  
Forty-seventh Legislature  
Second Regular Session  
2006

## **HOUSE CONCURRENT MEMORIAL 2018**

A CONCURRENT MEMORIAL

URGING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO ENACT AN AGRICULTURAL COMMUTER WORKER  
PERMIT PROGRAM.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)



1 To the Congress of the United States of America:

2 Your memorialist respectfully represents:

3 Whereas, agriculture along the southern United States border is often  
4 seasonal and concentrated within tight time frames in which highly perishable  
5 crops must be produced and harvested in a timely manner or the entire crop  
6 could be lost; and

7 Whereas, farmers along the southern border face calamities of weather,  
8 pests and market conditions along with stringent requirements to provide a  
9 safe and wholesome supply of food for the citizens of the United States and  
10 the world; and

11 Whereas, agriculture requires a stable and reliable source of labor in  
12 order to produce enough food to meet the needs of our citizens so the United  
13 States does not become dependent on foreign nations for our food supply; and

14 Whereas, the total economic impact of Arizona agriculture for 2004 was  
15 approximately \$9.2 billion, providing an integral economic contribution  
16 throughout our state; and

17 Whereas, agriculture requires access to a stable and reliable pool of  
18 foreign workers due to an aging and increasingly educated native born  
19 workforce and employees leaving agricultural work for other industries; and

20 Whereas, current agricultural work visa programs fail to provide timely  
21 access to necessary labor; and

22 Whereas, an agricultural commuter worker permit program can complement  
23 both border security and workplace enforcement while allowing a natural flow  
24 of labor; and

25 Whereas, an agricultural commuter worker permit program will help abate  
26 many of the social and human costs in terms of crime and deaths in the  
27 desert; and

28 Whereas, an agricultural commuter worker permit program will allow  
29 willing agricultural workers to commute from their country of origin to work  
30 in the United States while maintaining their country of origin residency.

31 Wherefore your memorialist, the House of Representatives of the State of  
32 Arizona, the Senate concurring, prays:

33 1. That the United States Congress include an agricultural commuter  
34 worker permit program as part of immigration reform legislation that allows  
35 foreign workers to commute across the border daily to work in the United  
36 States if they have passed criminal and security background checks and a  
37 medical examination and if they possess tamper-resistant biometric  
38 authorization cards.

39 2. That the Secretary of State of the State of Arizona transmit copies  
40 of this Memorial to the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of  
41 the United States House of Representatives and each Member of Congress from  
42 the State of Arizona.

~~PASSED BY THE HOUSE MARCH 13, 2006.~~

~~PASSED BY THE SENATE APRIL 11, 2006.~~

~~FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE APRIL 12, 2006.~~